

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T AMMAN 0780

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PFOR JO US XF
SUBJECT: TALK WITH CROWN PRINCE--SAYRIA,JORDAN AND PLO

SUMMARY: CROWN PRINCE HASSAN IS GRATIFIED BY RESULTS
JORDANIAN-SYRIAN TALKS TALKS WHICH "UNIFICATION" ARRANGE
MENTS TO PROCEED AT MEASURED PACE. HE DESCRIBES JORDANIAN
OBJECTIVES IN PLO-JORDANIAN DIALOGUE. HE ALSO BELIEVES
JORDAN MADE SERIOUS MISTAKE IN PAST IN ITS DEALINGS WITH
WEST BANK WHICH CAN ONLY BE RECTIFIED IF IN THE FUTURE PALESTINIANS
ARE REQUIRED TO HANDLE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS OF GOVERNMENT
AND LAW AND ORDER. END SUMMARY

1. IN MEETING WITH CROWN PRINCE FEBRUARY 8 HE GAVE ME
HIS VIEWS ON KINGS RECENT VISIT TO DAMASCUS AND JORDAN-PLO
DIALOGUE. ON DAMASCUS VISIT HE IS EXTREMELY PLEASED
THAT FUTURE JORDANIAN-SYRIAN RELATIONS ISSUE RESOLVED
IN MANNER WHICH ALLOWS MEASURED PACE OF EVENTS. HE
SAID HE WAS BEEN CONSTANTLY CONCERNED ABOUT A FULL
JORDANIAN FEDERATION WITH SYRIA, AND PARTICULARLY HOW
SOME NOW UNKNOWN FUTURE SYRIAN LEADERSHIP CHANGES MIGHT

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GREATLY AFFECT THE FUTURE.

2. AS FOR THE JORDAN-PLO DILOGUE, HASSAN SEES THREE
POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS EMERGING. THE FIRST IS THA
THE JORDANIANS THROUGH THE DIALOGUE CAN ATTAIN WHAT
HASSAN CALLS A PSOTION OF RESPECTABIILITY IN THE DIALOGUE
WILL REFUTE AND DISSIPATE PAST PLO CRITICISM WHICH HAS

MADE JORDAN AND THE HASHEMITES "INTERLOPERS" IN THE AREA AND WORSE. SECONDLY IN THE DIALOGUE JORDAN CAN MAKE PLO RECOGNIZE THAT IT MUST FACE UP TO THE REALITIES OF CONDUCTING A NEGOTIATION. CONCESSIONS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE AND THE PLO IS PROBABLY NOT CAPABLE OF DEALING NOW WITH THE QUESTION OF ATTENDING GENEVA BUT, EVEN IF THEY ARE THEY WILL HAVE MASSIVE PROBLEMS AMONG THEMSELVES IN AGREEING TO THE KIND OF CONCESSIONS THE ISRAELIS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY DEMAND.

FINALLY JORDAN CAN IN THE DIALOGUE SETTLE THE ISSUE OF PLO INSISTANCE ON SETTING UP BASES IN JORDAN TO ATTACK ISRAEL ON THE WEST BANK AND A RETURN TO PLO POLITICAL ACTIVITY HERE. WHILE THEY MAY THINK THEY CAN COME UNDER A FATAH OR SOME OTHER LABEL THEY WILL BE TOLD THIS IS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.

3. HASSAN REVIEWED PRIVATELY WHAT HE CONSIDERED TO BE MISTAKES MADE BY JORDAN IN THE PAST. IN THE 50'S SHOULD HAVE PROVIDED FOR ECONOMIC PROGRAMS TO ASSIST THE PALESTINIAN REFUGEES AND FIND THEM EMPLOYMENT. INSTEAD JORDAN BEGAN ITS HEAVY HANDED POLICE CONTROL IN THE WEST BANK. TO REVIEW THE BACKLASH OF THIS ACTION JORDAN THEN HELPED SPONSOR FORMATION OF THE PLO. IN 68-70 PLO TURNED ON JORDAN AND CIVIL WAR ERUPTED. JORDAN SHOULD NOT REPEAT THESE MISTAKES IN ANY FUTURE LINKS WITH THE WEST BANK. PALESTINIANS SHOULD BE FOUND WHO WILL KEEP ORDER AND SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DEALING WITH THEIR FACTIONS.

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GENUINE PROGRAMS OF DEVELOPMENT HAVE TO BE EVOLVED TO PERMIT THE WEST BANKERS AND THOSE WHO RETURN TO REALIZE A FUTURE FOR THEMSELVES.
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